

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. BA-2758

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic 506 Dunkirk Street

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 506 Dunkirk ^{Road} Street not for publication

city, town Towson vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> museum
			<u> </u> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<u> </u> religious
			<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. & Mrs. James V. Hake

street & number 506 Dunkirk Street telephone no.: 377-9705

city, town Towson, state and zip code Maryland 21224

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthoieuse liber 6541

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue folio 167

city, town Towson state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. BA-2758

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

See attached sheets.

7. Description

506 Dunkirk Road

This house is an example of a variation on the typical bungalow with a large front porch, thick pillars and Tidewater style chimney and the American Foursquare with four main rooms upstairs and downstairs. The house, circa 1928, is generally rectangular in shape with a trapezoidal west side bay extension, 2 1/2 stories and two bays in front elevation. It has a wood frame construction on a concrete block foundation. The house has a formal living room, country kitchen, four bedrooms, one full bathroom, a half bathroom and an unimproved basement and attic. All rooms except as noted appear to be serving the same function as they were originally intended and the house is in a general excellent condition.

The house has a slate, pyramidal roof which overhanging eaves each side and a west side brick exterior chimney. None of the original shutters are hung presently at the windows. The sides of the house were originally covered with cedar shake shingle giving it a dark coloration but the shingles are now overlayed with tan asbestos clapboard. Except for the clapboard addition, there are few modern alterations to this house either exterior or interior.

The house is located on Lots 61 and 62 of Dunkirk Road which comprise 0.14 acres and consists mainly of a grass lawn in the front of the house and cultivated plot in the rear. There are no outbuildings.

FRONT OR SOUTH FACADE

There are twin one over one double hung windows on the first story, left side with the main entrance on the right side. All exterior windows on all facades have a plain wooden trim with flanking hardware for the shutters. The entrance has a fifteen glass pane wooden door with a fronting metal storm door. There is a top transom over the doorway consisting of five rectangular horizontal panes of glass and flanking side transoms consisting of six small rectangular vertical panes. Fronting and located above the first story but below the second floor windows is a wide projecting slate roof supported by two end wooden beams and three concrete block columns extending down to the front tongue and groove wooden porch founded on concrete block. Two of the columns frame the entrance on the right side while the third is located on the extreme left side. There are five flag stone steps leading to the front porch on the right side flanked by wrought iron railings. The porch which extends from the house proper has diagonal wooden trellise work on all three sides on the ground level. There are clapboard sides or parapets extending around the porch. A vertical rain gutter extends down each front side.

The second story has two, one over one double hung windows dividing that level in thirds. The attic of half level has a small gabled dormer with two flanking front one over one windows and a small slate roof.

There is a concrete walkway leading to the front steps from the front sidewalk which then wraps around the house on the right side to the rear entrance. There is a parallel concrete and stone driveway to this sidewalk on the right side also.

EAST FACADE

The right or east side of the house has a central wooden door leading to the basement portion flanked by two small, three pane horizontal rectangular windows set in the concrete block also serving the basement. On this side as on the west side and rear or north side, the block foundation is visible.

On the first floor level there are four larger full size windows: two, one over one windows flanking the door but at a higher level and a double, one over one window on the right side serving the kitchen area of the house. Directly over the door and slightly above the first floor level is a full size one over one window which serves the stairway to the second floor. On the second level there are three, one over one windows with the center one being of a smaller size than the end full size windows.

WEST FACADE

The left or west side of the house has a large trapezoidal bay window extension on its left side at the location of the dining room which extends from the first story level to the main bedroom at the second floor level. This extension has three large one over one windows on each of its sides on the first floor level. Directly in the center of the facade is a long narrow brick exterior chimney which extends from the foundation through the pyramidal roof. There are two small horizontal rectangular windows at the block foundation level on either side of the chimney serving the basement area. At the right side, first floor level there are two, one over one windows serving the living room and flanking the chimney and to the right of the bay window. At the second floor level there are two one over one windows.

REAR OR NORTH FACADE

The rear side of the house has four flagstone steps leading to the left side kitchen door. This entrance is topped with a flat wood roof supported by two wooden columns. The roof also serves as a second floor balcony for a door at this level on the left side to the third bedroom now being used as a computer room. The balcony has sides or solid parapets which consist of the asphalt clapboard siding. On the right side of the entrance on the first floor level are two midsize one over one windows. There is a single one over one window on the right side, second floor. A small vent pipe is

centered in the pyramidal roof. There is a gutter pipe on the right side of this facade.

INTERIOR-FIRST FLOOR

The house has a right side hall plan and four main rooms. The front entrance of the house opens to a square moderate size hallway. The hallway has accesses to three areas. Directly from the doorway is an open entrance giving passage to a smaller hallway which leads to the basement door and the rear kitchen area. The main staircase to the second floor is adjacent to the east exterior wall immediately to the right of the main entrance. On the immediate left of the main entrance is the entrance to the living room which is located on an interior wall.

The hallway, as do all the rooms in the house, has plaster walls and ceilings, wooden baseboards, tongue and groove wooden floors with a dark, trim inset border, approximately ten foot ceilings, windows with plain trim and original wiring, cast iron plumbing and cast iron heating radiators.

There is one cast iron radiator in the hallway immediately to the right of the front door on the east wall fronting a full window behind the radiator. The hallway is location of the thermostat located on a wall. The most notable features in the hallway, and in the house for that matter, are a brass "Cupid" statue light fixture on the newel of the close string stairwell and an elaborate

overhanging glass and metal light fixture from the ceiling. The original imitation pearl push button light switch is located on the wall and still functions. The entrance to the living room has twin fifteen pane swinging wooden frame doors with French style latches or handles.

The living or main room is approximately fifteen feet by sixteen feet and has four windows, two on the front or south exterior wall of the house with an intermediate radiator and two on the west exterior wall located on either side of the brick fireplace. Upon entering the room from the hallway there is an interior wall located on the right side and divides the living room from the dining room. It has an entrance which also has swinging wooden doors with fifteen glass panes and French style door latches or handles. The fireplace has been painted and has a simple flat wood mantle and a brick floor in its front. There is an original dome type light fixture on the ceiling.

The dining room is approximately fifteen by fifteen and is rather non descript except for the three bay extension fronted by a long cast iron radiator. Immediately across the room from the swinging door entrance is a closed wooden door entrance which leads to a small or half bathroom.

This bathroom has only a toilet and sink located on the rear or north exterior wall. There is a mirror and cabinet located above

the sink. Also, a radiator is located on the interior wall and it has a tile floor.

The kitchen is located in the rear or north side of the house and adjacent to the small bathroom and can be reached from the dining room with an entrance having a wooden door on an interior east/west wall or from the narrow hallway from the front hallway. On the rear or north exterior wall in the kitchen is a door with a one over one window leading to the back door. On the east wall are twin windows on the left, then a range and a window. Adjacent to this on a short interior wall is a sink with cabinets for dishware mounted to the wall and an L counter.

Parallel to the east exterior wall is a narrow hallway leading to the front hallway. On its right side is a door for a wooden closet and on its left side are shelves housing cangoods and a wooden door leading to the basement.

The stairway to the second floor is wood construction with two flights and one landing and it has a plain handrail and rectangular balusters. There are five steps with eight balustrades leading to the side platform followed by eight steps with seventeen balustrades.

SECOND FLOOR

The second floor basicly consists of four original bedrooms of

varying size and a full bathroom. The northeast bedroom with its exterior door and balcony now functions instead as a computer room. The rooms on this floor have similar features to those on the first floor except they all have solid wooden doors. The stairway from the first floor leads to a small central hallway which upon making an immediate right leads to the full bathroom located on the east side of the second floor.

The bathroom has two original features worthy of note. There is a laundry shoot on the east exterior wall which leads to the basement and an original tile floor which now has a substantial crack near the toilet. This is the only major flaw in the house I observed. Next to the shoot is a small window located next to the toilet and then a short wall of the walk-in shower. The sink is located on the interior wall separating the bathroom from the hallway. Between the stairwell and the shower is a small door required for accessibility to the shower plumbing.

There is a door leading from the bathroom to the small northeast bedroom. This room which is approximately nine feet by four feet has a radiator on the east exterior wall fronting a full window.

The main bed room which is approximately fifteen feet by fifteen feet is located next on the west side and north side of the second floor. It has two exterior walls, one being the bay extension which on this level has only one full window on the far exterior side.

There is also a full window on the west exterior side of the room and a closet on the interior wall common with the second bedroom.

The second bedroom which is approximately twelve feet by fifteen feet and the third bedroom which is approximately twelve feet by thirteen feet occupy the south side of the house on the second floor. The second floor front windows serve these rooms and both have wooden doors and closets. In the third bedroom is the entrance and staircase to the attic level.

BASEMENT

The basement is an overall large undivided rectangular room with a large wood work shed located on the northwest corner. In the basement is a gas furnace and the foundation is poured concrete. The walls are concrete block. There are two flights of wooden steps consisting of six steps leading to landing platform followed by four more steps. The work shed houses the original exterior wooden shutters. The exposed electrical wiring here and in the attic reveals that it is the original knob and tube construction. There is an electrical utility box mounted on the front or south exterior wall. The washer and drier are located on the east exterior wall next to a replacement plastic sink and an enclosed toilet in a wood frame.

ATTIC

There are ten unfinished wooden steps leading from a wooden door in the southeast or third bedroom. This door appears to be the

entrance to a closet. The attic itself is unfinished and has the roof as the ceiling with the roof truss and electrical wiring exposed. The wiring here is more evident than the basement with the porcelain knob posts and black cloth wiring strung along the rafters. The condition of the wiring is amazing considering its age because it appears as if they are almost new. There is a light in the attic and the two small twin windows from the house's gabled dormer also illuminate the room. Daylight was also evident from the juncture of the exterior walls and the roof. The roof truss was not particularly interesting in that it was typical nailed construction. No vent was evident.

8. Significance

Survey No. BA-2758

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

See attached sheets.

8. Significance

506 Dunkirk Road is a part of the Anneslie community, a 1920's residential development conceived by real estate magnate, Charles H. Steffy. Anneslie is located east and adjacent to York Road between the much earlier founded towns of Govans and Towson. It marks the attempt to form a community on the outskirts of Baltimore within the financial means of the middle class and near a major transportation corridor. Originally earmarked as a row home development with narrow subdivisions, Anneslie instead became a neighborhood of individual houses with variety in style being the norm. Anneslie is also an early example of the transition of a large Baltimore County estate to residential development by subdivision to satisfy the need for middle class growth, in this case being the post World War I expansion. It marked an early step in the creation of Baltimore suburbia.

Anneslie can be traced to a 19th century estate founded by Frederick Harrison, a civil engineer. Harrison was the brother-in-law of Robert Brown who owned the neighboring estate of Stoneleigh with the mansion of the same name. He married Anne R. Wilson in 1837 and named the estate after her. The tract bounded by York Road, Sherwood road, Regester and Winwood Road was used as a summer estate while the Harrisons lived on Charles Street in Baltimore City in the winter. In the 19th century many of these type estates

lined York Road from Waverly in north central Baltimore City to Towson and were the homes of the wealthy.

The keystone of the Anneslie estate is the still extant Italianate style Villa Anneslie designed by John Rudolph Niernsee and built in 1855. It is located on 529 Dunkirk Road not far from 506 Dunkirk Road. It is on the National Register of Historic Places. It was located far from York Road and surrounded by groves of trees, fields and wooded areas.

The estate was eventually owned by the Birckhead family, descendants of the Harrisons who developed the estate into a farm and who also raised point to point steeplechasers there. The Birckheads were also famous for the surgeons their family produced. Lennox Birkhead was the last owner of the estate and sold the property for development.

506 Dunkirk Road in itself is not significant but as part of the community of Anneslie shows an important early transformation period in the 20th century from rural Baltimore County to Baltimore suburbia. It should be noted that Susan G. Witcher, the former owner, is supposedly a noted author of children books and was formerly employed at Johns Hopkins University.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. BA-2758

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 0.14 acres

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting					North	ing		

B

Zone	Easting					North	ing		

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title James T. Aguirre

organization State Highway Administration date December 14, 1994

street & number 707 North Calvert Street telephone ((401) 333-1151

city or town Baltimore state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: ~~Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438~~

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2073
514-7600

Bibliographical References

1. Villa Anneslie- BA-101. George J. Andreve, National Register of Historic Places Inventory- Nomination Form, January 25, 1977.
2. Origin of Names in Baltimore County. Jennie Jessop & Thomas R. Douglas, Baltimore County Historic Society, 1974.
3. A History of Baltimore County. Neal A. Brooks & Eric G. Rochel, Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
4. History of Baltimore City and County. J. Thomas Scharf, Regional Publishing Co., 1971.
5. You Can Afford to Live in Anneslie. Charles H. Steffy, Inc., 1929.
6. Sidney Map of Baltimore, Maryland, 1850.
7. Water Map of Baltimore and Baltimore County, May 11, 1852.
8. 1877 Atlas of Baltimore County, C.M. Hopkins.

9. The American House. Mary Mix Foley, Harper & Row, Publishers, 1980.
10. Anneslie Advertisement. Charles H. Steffy, 1926.
11. Anneslie. Jacques Kelly, News American, March 19, 1972.

506 Dunkirk Street

Chain of Title

<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Home Co.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Liber</u>	<u>Folio</u>
John L. & Susan G. Whitcher	Diane S. & James V. Hake	Baltimore	8/19/92	9334	391

Ethel E. Tubman	John L. & Susan G. Whitcher	Baltimore	6/14/83	6541	167

Marie M. Conner	Ethel E. Tubman	Baltimore	8/30/55	2770	254

Straw Man, Inc.	Marie M. Conner	Baltimore	12/27/54 (piberty of title)	2621	88

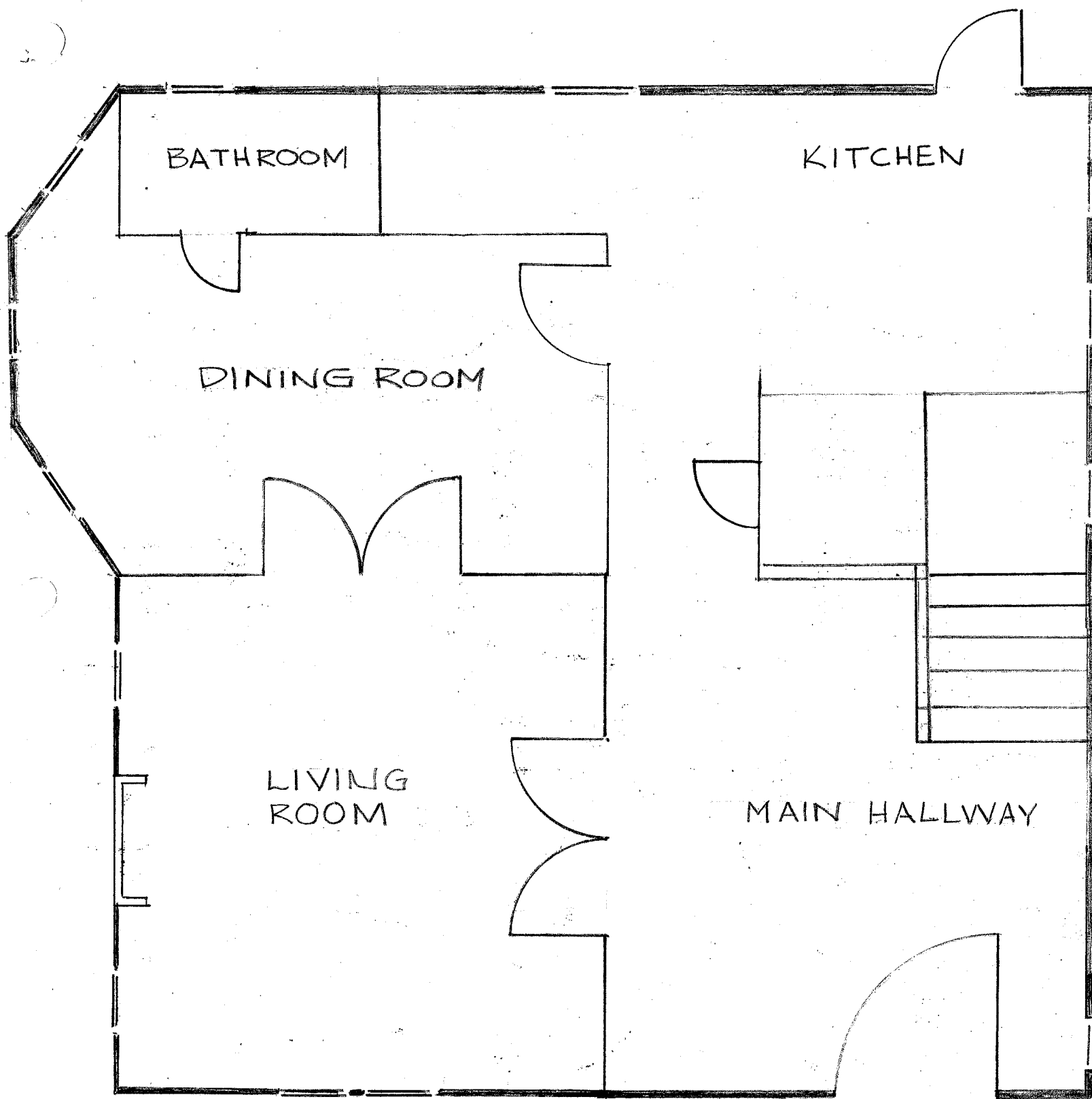
Marie M. Conner	Shirley M. & Alfred V. Conner	Baltimore	5/15/46	1463	127

Charles H. Steffy	Henrietta & Theodore J. Robinson	Baltimore	10/31/23	580	437

Note: The Robinson's willed the house to their daughter, Marie M. who married Charles S. Conner who in turn died on October 9, 1938.

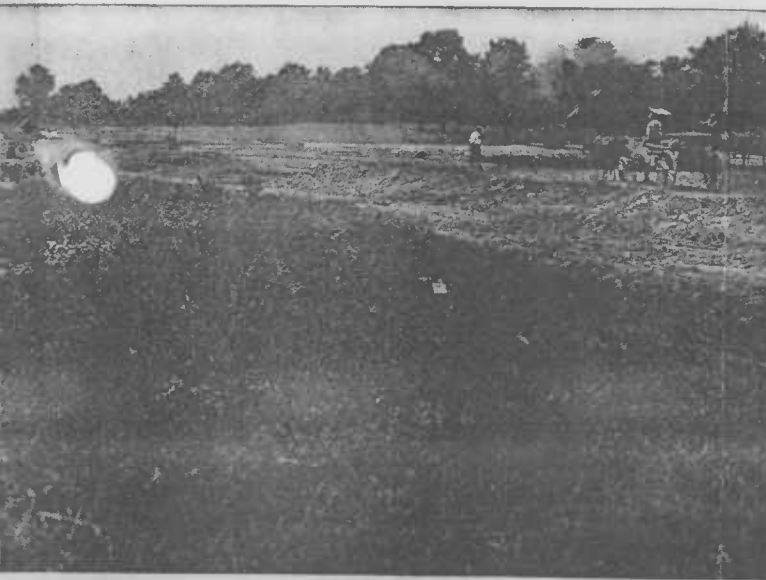
Charles W. Charles H. Baltimore 5/23/22 555 317
Mulligan & Steffy
Wife

Lennox Charles W. Baltimore 10/16/15 453 221
Birckhead & Mulligan &
Wife Wife



506 DUNKIRK ROAD
First Floor Plan
Scale: None

BA-2758



ANNESLIE TWO YEARS AGO

Build Your Home Where Values Grow at

ANNESLIE

ON YORK ROAD, BETWEEN WALKER AND REGESTER AVENUES

In the Midst of Baltimoreans' Most Beautiful Suburban Developments

SINGLE CARFARE TO WALKER AVENUE—TOWSON CAR LINE

BE AMONG THE FIRST TO BUY ON ANNESLIE ROAD JUST BEING COMPLETED

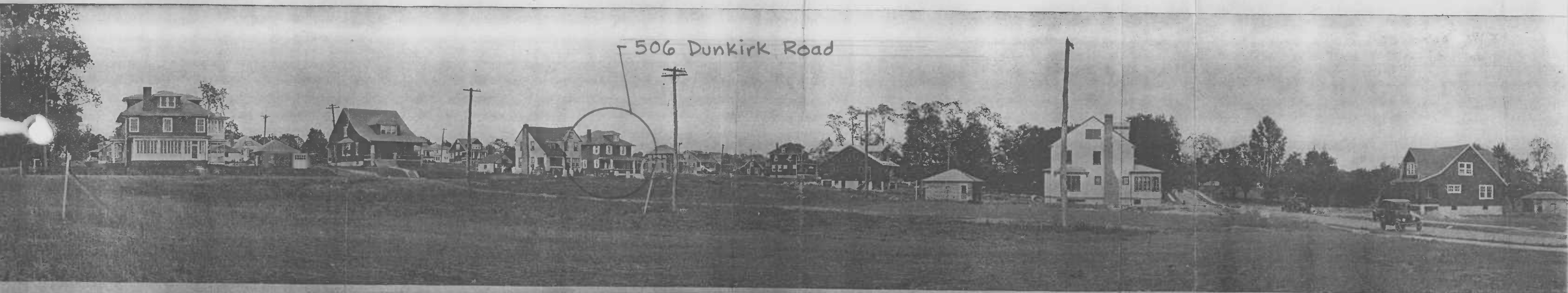
Gas, Water, Electric Lights, Fire Plugs, Lighted Streets, Cement Sidewalks, Good Roads, County Taxes

No Houses Built on less than 50 Foot Lot

This is One of the Several Sections of ANNESLIE



ANNESLIE TWO YEARS AGO



ANNESLIE TODAY—Almost Unbelievable, But True

Water Map of Baltimore
City & County 5/11/1852





Sidney Map of Baltimore
Maryland 1850



TOWSON USGS QUAD MAP

39°22'30"



BA-2758

910,000 FEET

506 DUNKIRK ST.

76°-37'-30"



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.
Towson, Md.



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.
Towson, Md.



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.

Towson, Md.



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.
Towson, Md.



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.
Poussan, Md.



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.
Pousson, Md.



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.
Poussan, Md



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.

Towson, Md.



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk Pt.
Towson, Md



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.
Towson, Md.



BA-2758

506 Dunkirk St.
Poussan, Md.